
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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GOVERNOR'S BUDGET HEARING — DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Budget Hearing. On November 29, 2017, Governor Kim Reynolds held a budget hearing for the Department of Corrections. Director Jerry Bartruff presented the Department budget request for FY 2019 as summarized in an earlier [Fiscal Update Article](#). During the presentation, Director Bartruff discussed the following items:

- Iowa is one of two states that experienced an increase in arrests in all four main categories of violent crime. In addition, Iowa's violent crime recidivism rate is slowly and steadily increasing. Director Bartruff discussed the importance of data-driven practices to find solutions to the problem.
- Reducing recidivism through data-driven practices would result in fewer victims as well as cost savings for the State. Based on the average offender cost per day and the average length of stay per offender, a 10.0% reduction in recidivism is estimated to save approximately \$7.6 million, and a 20.0% reduction of recidivism is estimated to save approximately \$15.2 million per year.
- Governor Reynolds recently visited the Iowa Prison Industries workshop at the Anamosa State Penitentiary and highlighted the continued success of the apprenticeship program offered to offenders.

Department Request. The Department submitted an FY 2019 request for General Fund appropriations totaling \$378.7 million. This is an increase of \$1.0 million compared to estimated FY 2018. The additional funding is requested for increased medical costs for drugs and biologicals provided through the Iowa Medical and Classification Center at the Oakdale facility.

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